Legal expertise to other countries

4898. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Legal expertise/department is extending its expertise to other countries in drafting laws, rules, etc.; and

(b) if so, the details of countries to which legal expertise has been extended?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) During the year 2000, on a request of the Sri Lankan Government, in-service training in Legislative Drafting was provided for about 3 months to officers of legal department of that country. Two weeks (on the Job) practical training is also being provided every year by the Institute of Legislative Drafting and Research in the Legislative Department to the trainee officers of the International Training programme, which is being conducted by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST), Lok Sabha, wherein participants include foreign trainees also under the Colombo Plan and Indian Technical and Economic Co-operation (ITEC) Programme.

Turnout of voters in elections

4899. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the low percentage of voter turnout in the elections in the recent years;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to increase the voter turnout by bringing in changes in their attitudes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) According to the figures furnished by the Election Commission of India with regard to the general elections to the Lok Sabha held since 1952 onwards so far, it is not true to say that the percentage of voter's turnout in the elections has declined.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.